India's Share in World Exports

*10. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although exports during 2000-2001 rose by 18 per cent to touch $ 44 billion, yet they were lower than other Asian countries like Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, indicating India's present share of world's exports;

(c) whether under new medium-term export strategy, Government would be able to achieve the target of annual exports of $ 80 billion by 2007 as well as cornering India's share of world exports to 1 per cent; and

(d) whether tax rebates, export subsidies given by Government would stay or India's strategy would be WTO compatible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) India's exports during 2000-2001 are valued at US $ 44.56 billion as compared to the level of US $ 36.82 billion during April-March, 1999-2000 thereby, registering a growth of 21% which was higher than the target of 18% set for the year 2000-2001. This is the highest export growth rate achieved in the last decade. As per WTO International Trade Statistics, the value of exports of India for 2000, is lower than that of Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore. The 21% growth of exports in dollar terms achieved during the year 2000-2001 is basically due to the favourable world economic situation, outstanding performance by the exporting community and several export promotion measures, as enumerated in the EXIM policy.

(c) Taking Stock of the developments in the recent past and considering the current global economic environment, the Medium Term Export Strategy for the period 2002—2007 has been announced. Medium Term Export Strategy gives broad directions by giving a road map for export sector by setting targets, in the medium term, in order to achieve US $ 80 billion *i.e.* 1% of world exports by the year 2007. Key macro policies and sector-wise policies have been suggested to reach the target of 1% share which is achievable.

(d) Our export incentive schemes like Duty Drawback cannot be considered as subsidies as they are meant for rebating indirect taxes and import duties on the imported inputs to be used for production of export products and are WTO compatible.

Security arrangements at IGIA

*11. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BCAS at IGIA has recently conducted a security audit and recommended steps to prevent serious breach of security;

(b) if so, Government's reaction on such recommendations;

(c) whether the security arrangements around IGIA are inadequate to face any terrorists threat; and

(d) if so, the plans formulated to strengthen the security arrangements around IGIA in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) As a part of the ongoing process, the IGI Airport was inspected recently by BCAS officials. The security arrangements at the airport are adequate, and no major shortcomings have been noticed. However, all concerned agencies have once again been sensitized to the need for maintaining utmost security. The existing instructions about access control, perimeter security, Quick Reaction Teams, pre-embarkation security checks, screening of registered baggage, handling of cargo have been reiterated.

Minimum Support Price for Coffee

*12. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Minimum Support Price (MSP) for coffee;